District	Plants found functional out of the plants inspected
1	2
Nellore	93%
Prakasam	75%
Ranga Reddy	92%
Vizianagaram	100%
Warangal	89%
West Godavari	90%

Solar Energy Powered Air Quality Monitoring Station at Agra

3122. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister, of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Ministry to make arrangements to run air quality monitoring station in Agra with solar energy to protect the Taj from pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) would Government consider the same arrangement for other national monuments to protect them from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRIM. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) To monitor the pollution level in the Taj Mahal complex, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the UP Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) have installed air quality monitoring stations. In view of erratic power supply, these agencies have been using diesel generating sets as back up power source to operate the equipment of air quality monitoring stations.

The Supreme Court in course of hearing a petition relating to impact of air pollution on the Taj Mahal, has directed the ASI, the Central Pollution Control Board and the UPPCB *vide* its order dated 27th November, 2001 to instal solar energy systems to power the air quality monitoring stations in four months time. The Court has also directed that for the time being the Central Government should meet the cost of using this technology.

(c) The Ministry has also informed the Court that it can provide technical support to the ASI to study the feasibility of using solar photovoltaic systems in other protected monuments. The ASI has no such plan under their consideration in respect of other monuments at present.